Amendment to the Claims:

Listing of the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method of aggregating a plurality of entries in a table in a database management system into an aggregated entry in the table or another table in the database management system, the method comprising the steps of:

    making the aggregated entry, the aggregated entry representing the plurality of entries and including a field whose value is a representation of a set~~_of individual members, the individual members being derived from values contained in entries belonging to the plurality of the entries,~~_ the representation specifying the~individual members of the set~~; and~~

    ~~deriving the individual members specified in the representation of the set from values contained in entries belonging to the plurality thereof.~~

2. (original) The method set forth in claim 1 further comprising the step of:

    deleting the plurality of entries represented by the aggregated entry.

3. (currently amended) The method set forth in claim 1 wherein:

    the representation of the set has a size which varies with the number of the~individual members specified in the representation.

4. (currently amended) The method set forth in claim 3 wherein:

    The representation of the set comprises ~~represents the set as~~ a character string, ~~wherein~~ the character string comprising ~~each member is represented by~~ a sequence of characters for each individual member of the set, and separator characters separating each the sequences of characters ~~are separated by a separator character~~.

5. (currently amended) The method set forth in claim 1 wherein:

    the representation of the set has a size which is constant regardless of the number of the individual members in the set.

6. (currently amended) The method set forth in claim 5 wherein:

the representation of the set <u>comprises</u> ~~represents the set as~~ a string of elements, <u>the string of element comprising</u> ~~there being~~ an element corresponding to each potential member of the set, the presence of a particular <u>individual</u> member in the set being indicated by a first value of the corresponding element and the absence of the particular <u>individual</u> member <u>from the set</u> being indicated by a second value of the corresponding element.

7. (currently amended) The method set forth in claim 1 wherein:

in ~~the step of~~ deriving <u>the individual</u> members of the set, the values from which the <u>individual</u> members of the set are derived are time values.

8. (currently amended) The method set forth in claim 1 wherein:

in ~~the step of~~ deriving <u>the individual</u> members of the set, the values from which the <u>individual</u> members of the set are derived are location values.

9. (cancelled)

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19. (cancelled)

20. (cancelled)

21. (cancelled)

22. (cancelled)

23. (cancelled)

24. (cancelled)

25. (currently amended) A data storage device, characterized in that:

the data storage device contains code which when executed by a processor performs ~~a method of aggregating~~ aggregation of a plurality of entries in a table in a database management system into an aggregated entry in the table or another table in the database management system, the ~~method~~ code comprising instructions for~~the steps of~~:

making the aggregated entry, the aggregated entry representing the plurality of entries and including a field whose value is a representation of a set of individual members, the individual members being derived from values contained in entries belonging to the plurality of the entries, the representation specifying the individual members of the set~~, and~~

~~deriving the individual members specified in the representation of the set from values contained in entries belonging to the plurality thereof.~~

26. (currently amended) The data storage device set forth in claim 25 further characterized in that:

the ~~method~~ code further comprises instructions for ~~the step of~~

deleting the plurality of entries represented by the aggregated entry.

27. (currently amended) The data storage device set forth in claim 25 further characterized in that:

the representation of the set has a size which varies with the number of the individual members specified in the representation.

28. (currently amended) The data storage device set forth in claim 27 further characterized in that:

The representation of the set comprises ~~represents the set as~~ a character string, ~~wherein~~ the character string comprising ~~each member is represented by~~ a sequence of characters for each individual member of the set, and separator characters separating each ~~the~~ sequences of characters ~~are separated by a separator character.~~

29. (currently amended) The data storage device set forth in claim 25 further characterized in that:

the representation of the set has a size which is constant regardless of the number of the individual members in the set.

30. (currently amended) The data storage device set forth in claim 29 further characterized in that:

the representation of the set comprises ~~represents the set as~~ a string of elements, the string of elements comprising ~~there being~~ an element corresponding to each potential member of the set, the presence of a particular individual member in the set being indicated by a first value of the corresponding element and the absence of the particular individual member from the set being indicated by a second value of the corresponding element.

31. (currently amended) The data storage device set forth in claim 25 further characterized in that:

in ~~the step of~~ deriving the individual members of the set, the values from which the individual members of the set are derived are time values.

32. (currently amended) The data storage device set forth in claim 25 further characterized in that:

in ~~the step of~~ deriving the individual members of the set, the values from which the individual members of the set are derived are location values.

33. (cancelled)
34. (cancelled)
35. (cancelled)
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41. (cancelled)

42. (cancelled)

43. (cancelled)

44. (cancelled)

45. (cancelled)

46. (cancelled)

47. (cancelled)

48. (cancelled)